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saved him from protracted inaction and pain, from what Heine, in his own case, has pathetically bewailed as the "mattress grave." By special directions in Dr. Gross's will the body was cremated, and the ashes have been placed beside the coffin of his wife in Woodlands Cemetery.

Such is a sketch of the life of this prodigious worker. An original contributor to the science for which he had a fondness ; a widely known practical surgeon ; an admirable, most learned writer; a great teacher exerting an influence which will long survive him,—Dr. Gross occupied the foremost rank in the medical profession. It was evident from his student days that he was to be a man of rare distinction :

> "Mens ardua semper
> A puero, tenerisque etiam fulgebat in annis
> Fortunæ majoris honos."

He, certainly, was of the men whose high fortune throws its shadows before from the earliest years. The youth showed what the mature man was ; the old man was but the youth with the promise fulfilled, and with honors gracefully worn that no one ever doubted would be attained. A part of his extraordinary fame is due to the circumstances under which he worked. He was the first writer on this continent who, with anything like gift of expression, brought together and elaborated the truths of surgical science, and partly this, but chiefly the excellence of his labors, extended his reputation in all directions beyond his own country. In acquiring fame for himself, he added to her fame. Conspicuous in many ways, Samuel Dent Gross stands forth a marked personality among the eminent men of our or of any generation.

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## *Stated Meeting, Dec. 19, 1884.*

Present, 15 members.

President, Mr. FRALEY, in the Chair.

Letters of acknowledgment were received from the University of California and the Royal Society of Victoria, Melbourne (112, 113).

Letters of envoy were received from the Argentine Observatory, the Department of Internal Affairs at Harrisburg, and Mrs. John Biddle of Philadelphia.

Donations to the Library were received from Mr. H. J. Browne of Victoria; the Bureau of Statistics at Stockholm;

the Royal Academy and Royal Observatory of Belgium; the Geographical Society at Paris; the Annales des Mines; the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the Meteorological Council of the Royal Society, and London Nature; Mr. J. Lowthian Bell; Dr. Benjamin Ward Richardson; Mr. E. W. Maunder; the Natural History Society of Northumberland, Durham and New Castle–upon–Tyne; the Boston Society of Natural History; the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy; the American Society of Civil Engineers; Yale College; the Meteorological Observatory of New York; the College of Physicians; the Second Geological Survey of Pennsylvania; the Johns Hopkins University; the U. S. Bureau of Ethnology, and Coast and Geodetic Survey; Rev. Stephen D. Peet, of Chicago; the National Academy of Sciences, and the National Observatory of Cordoba. Also, a valuable set of books on India, bequeathed to the Society by the late John Biddle, Esq., of Philadelphia.

Mr. Vaux read by appointment an obituary notice of the late Mr. Henry M. Phillips.

Dr. DaCosta read by appointment an obituary notice of the late Samuel D. Gross, M. D.

Prof. Cope communicated a paper entitled "Twelfth Contribution to the Herpetology of Tropical America."

Mr. Ashburner described the recent publications of the Second Geological Survey of the State.

The Committee on two applications for the Magellanic premium reported adversely to the applications.

The report of the Finance Committee was read and approved, and the appropriations for 1885 recommended therein were adopted, and the meeting was adjourned.

The remarks of Mr. Ashburner were as follows:—

In 1874 the Second Geological Survey of Pennsylvania was organized. Up to the present time there have been issued sixty reports (edition of 5000 copies) of progress and eleven atlases of maps and sections, in octavo volumes, to accompany these reports. In addition to these, within the last month, there has been published a large atlas of unfolded sheets of the Anthracite Survey, constituting the first part of a series of similar atlases which will ultimately form the grand atlas of the survey. A copy of this Anthracite atlas has been transmitted to the Society during the past week, and it may be of interest to the members to know something of the plan which has been adopted for the publication of these grand atlas sheets. The direction of the publication of these atlases has been placed under my charge.

Since the commencement of the Survey, there have been numerous sheets of geological maps and sections published to accompany the reports of progress. These sheets have been printed on light paper and folded in octavo atlases, or in a pocket of the reports. Anticipating a demand which might arise for copies, upon heavier unfolded sheets from which measurements could be made, of those maps and sections which were of a more permanent character, an edition (1000 copies) of such maps and sections has been printed on heavy atlas paper, the size of the sheets being 26 x 32 inches, except in one or two special cases. This size of sheet was adopted on account of its being that upon which the maps and sections could be most economically adjusted, and not as being a convenient one for handling.

The Grand Atlas has been divided into five divisions. Although all of the sheets to be contained in any one of these five divisions are not as yet printed, or even all constructed, it is proposed at the present time to issue, in individual parts, the sheets of each division which have been printed; as other sheets shall be printed under the five divisions respectively, they will constitute a second part of the same division. It is designed, however, not to issue a separate part of a division until the sheets shall aggregate twenty to twenty-five in number.

Division I will contain the geological maps of the counties constructed on a scale of two miles to one inch, 1-126,720th of nature. In the notes of explanation accompanying Part 1 of the county geological maps, containing forty-nine sheets, covering fifty-six counties, which is now in press, and which will shortly be issued, Prof. Lesley says: "None of these county maps are correct, and it is a rare occurrence that any two or three maps can be joined together to form one connected whole. The geology of the counties has been outlined on the maps from outcrops, located with reference to some topographical or geographical feature determined on the ground, the position of which appears on the map. As a result of this method, the geological outlines, at a line common to adjoining maps, do not always meet, the geology on each being referred independently to the topographical and geographical features of the two maps, which do not themselves agree along the common line. In some cases adjustments have been made, especially where the geology of several adjoining counties was mapped by one assistant geologist. In cases where topographical maps have been made by the Survey, the geology has been outlined on them, and that portion of the county map containing such surveys has been made to agree with them. Although it would be practically impossible to construct an accurate geological map of the entire State from a compilation of the county geological maps, yet it is apparent that when an accurate topographical map of the State from original surveys shall have been made, the geology can then be outlined upon it, by using the information contained on these maps, with very little additional work in the field."

Division II, will contain the sheets of the Anthracite Survey. These sheets will be grouped under the following heads :

Mine sheets, scale 800 feet to one inch, 1-9600th of nature. The area covered by each sheet, inside of the border lines, is 15.67 square miles. On these sheets will be represented the plan of all the mines and the shape of the floor of the most extensively developed coal bed (Mammoth bed principally), where mined, and its most probable structure in undeveloped areas, by contour curve lines fifty feet vertically apart; also the surface geological features.

Topographical sheets, scale 1600 feet to one inch, 1-19,200th of nature. The area embraced within the border line of each sheet is 62.68 square miles. On these sheets will be represented the topography of the surface by contour curve lines ten feet vertically apart.

Cross section sheets, containing vertical cross sections, scale 400 feet to one inch, 1-4800th of nature, showing the shape of the coal beds, where mined, and their most probable structure in undeveloped areas, accompanied by special maps and sections of the areas referred to, on various scales.

Columnar section sheets, containing perpendicular columnar sections, showing the thickness and character of the coal measures, scale forty feet to one inch, 1-480th of nature ; and of the coal beds, scale ten feet to one inch, 1-120th of nature ; accompanied by special sections and diagrams on various scales.

Miscellaneous sheets, containing special illustrations directly connected with the history, mining and geology of the region.

Division III, will contain the maps and sections relating to the petroleum and bituminous coal fields, published on various scales.

Division IV will contain the topographical maps, from the surveys of A. E. Lehman, of the South Mountain in Adams, Franklin and Cumberland counties, and the topographical maps of the Great Valley between Easton and Reading, constructed from the surveys of Messrs. d'Invilliers, Berlin and Clarke. These maps are published on a scale of 1600 feet to one inch, 1-19,200th of nature, and the topographical features are delineated by contour curve lines, either ten or twenty feet vertically apart.

Division V will contain the geological maps and sections relating principally to the Silurian and Devonian formations in Central Pennsylvania, and geological cross sections of the Philadelphia rocks in the south-eastern portion of the State.